

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13 (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) A tissue graft produced by a method ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of the steps of:

i) washing a starting tissue obtained from a human or animal ureter with a bioburden reducing agent so that said starting tissue is disinfected,

ii) decellularizing the disinfected tissue resulting from step (i) with water or an aqueous hypotonic buffer that lyses cells of said disinfected tissue so that a tissue matrix is formed, and

iii) contacting said tissue matrix resulting from step (ii) with a nuclease so that nucleic acid associated with said tissue matrix is degraded, and

iv) washing said tissue matrix resulting from (iii) so that cellular or extracellular debris is removed and said tissue graft is produced.

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15-46 (Cancelled).

47. (Currently Amended) The tissue graft according to claim 14 wherein ~~said method further comprises~~, after step (iv), ~~sterilizing~~ said tissue matrix is sterilized.

48. (Previously Presented) The tissue graft according to claim 14 wherein said tissue graft is cryopreserved.

49. (Previously Presented) The tissue graft according to claim 14 wherein said starting tissue is obtained from a bovine or porcine ureter.